

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SPECIAL/EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD ON
Tuesday, August 12, 2014**

A special meeting of the Cochise County Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, August 12, 2014 1:00 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors' Executive Conference Room, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G, Bisbee, Arizona.

Present: Patrick G. Call, Chairman; Ann English, Vice-Chairman; Richard R. Searle, Member

Staff Present: Michael J. Ortega, County Administrator
Jim Vlahovich, Deputy County Administrator
Britt W. Hanson, Chief Civil Deputy County Attorney
Arlethe G. Rios, Clerk of the Board
Juanita Murray, Elections/Special District Director
Elda Orduno, Civil Deputy County Attorney

Attendees: Derek Jordan
Don Wiggins
Grace Wiggins

Chairman Call called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA IS OPEN FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

THE ORDER OR DELETION OF ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION AT THE MEETING

ACTION

Board of Supervisors

This executive session is authorized under A.R.S. § 38-431.03, Subsection (A), paragraphs 1 and 3.

1. *Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(1) or (A)(3), the Board may vote to go into executive session to discuss personnel or consult with the attorneys of the public body for legal advice.*

Discussion and possible action ensuring the integrity of the elections process, including elections personnel.

Mr. Ortega gave the background of the issue and said that the integrity of the elections process needed to be addressed in order to ensure public confidence. He suggested that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss and noted that all parties had been noticed accordingly.

Vice-Chairman English moved to go into Executive Session. Supervisor Searle seconded the motion; it carried unanimously and the Board convened in Executive Session at 1:03 p.m.

The Board convened in Open Session at 2:00 p.m. and recessed at that time.

The Board reconvened at 3:25 p.m.

Vice-Chairman English moved to go into Executive Session. Supervisor Searle seconded the motion; it carried unanimously and the Board convened in Executive Session at 3:26 p.m.

The Board convened in Open Session at 3:58 p.m.

Supervisor Searle moved to direct Mr. Ortega to proceed as directed during the Executive Session. Vice-Chairman English seconded the motion.

Mr. Ortega clarified that he would be reorganizing the Elections Department to include reassignment of Ms. Murray; appoint Deputy County Administrator James E. Vlahovich as the Interim Elections Director; and hire outside contracting services to provide independent oversight of the Elections process.

Vice-Chairman English stated that the Board is concerned with the public perception of elections and wants to do what we can to restore confidence.

Chairman Call noted that although the Board wanted to address the issue, they were also taking into consideration the logistics and complexity of the process and wanted to ensure a smooth election handled in a professional manner.

Chairman Call adjourned the meeting at 4:03 p.m.

APPROVED:

Patrick G. Call, Chairman

ATTEST:

Arlenthe G. Rios, Clerk of the Board